



South Carolina State University

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Statement from South Carolina State University President Thomas J. Elzey

South Carolina State University is saddened today. We are saddened by the loss of one of our own students. Our deepest condolences go to the family of the victim. At this time, we are unable to share the student's name pending family notification.

Of course our first order of business here is to make sure our students are safe and cared for during this very difficult time. Grief counseling is being made available for our Students, faculty and staff.

As police work to apprehend the people they believe to be responsible for this horrible crime, we are pulling together as a community. Orangeburg Mayor Michael Butler, and Councilwoman Liz Zimmerman-Keitt have been here all day to offer their support. I've also received a call from Governor Nikki Haley pledging her support and assistance in whatever we need to provide for our students and bring the perpetrators to justice.

Again, I want to reassure parents who have children on this campus, that your children are in good hands. South Carolina State University will maintain a safe and secure environment for our faculty, Staff and Students.

I have the fullest confidence in our law enforcement officials to successfully bring this investigation to a close and arrest those responsible.